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Appln. No. 10/026,871 Amdt. Dated 02/04/2004 Reply to Final Action dated 12/04/2003

FEB 0 6 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hiroyuki Kawae et al. Confirmation No.: 1848

Serial No. : 10/026,871

Filed : December 21, 2001

TC/A.U. : 2879

Examiner : K. Quarterman

Docket No. : 01-764 Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 4, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire March 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 3 of this paper.